

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AGR-20 EB-11 COME-00 AID-20 L-03 SCI-06

IGA-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /095 W

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P R 182150Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8527

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJECT: FMD CONTROL-NEGOTIATING TEAM VISIT

PASS USDA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY YEUTTER

REF: A) STATE 132698 B) PASTORIONO-STARKEY TELECON
7/16/73 C) BOGOTA 5785 D) BOGOTA 5054

1. AGATT MET WITH MINAG VALLEJO THIS A.M. TO DISCUSS
DATE FOR PROPOSED HIGH LEVEL NEGOTIATIONS ON FMD
AGREEMENT AS INSTRUCTED REF A. VALLEJO AGREED WITH
AUGUST 16 DATE BUT SUGGESTED THAT TO MAXIMIZE TIME
AVAILABLE FOR NEGOTIATIONS SZABO/YEUTTER TEAM SHOULD
PLAN TO ARRIVE BOGOTA NIGHT OF AUGUST 15.

2. THE JOINT MECHANISM QUESTION WAS DISCUSSED IN SOME
DEPTH IN RESPONSE TO VALLEJO INITIATIVE. HE REITERATED
THAT PROBLEM FROM GOC POINT OF VIEW WAS BASICALLY ONE
OF PRESENTATION. USDA TECHNICAINS COULD PARTICIPATE
IN THE FMD PROGRAM. HAVE AN OFFICE IN THE AG MINISTRY
AND ADVISERS OR TECHNICIANS IN THE FIELD. BUT THE GOC
COULD NOT FOR POLITICAL REASONS EXPLAINED REF D AGREE
TO SETTING UP A JOINT COMMISSION TYPE STRUCTURE ALONG
LINES OF THE MEXICAN COMMISSION AND TO DIRECT U.S.
CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PROGRAM. HE ADDED THAT
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IN EFFECT THE U.S. WOULD MAINTAIN CONTROL OVER THE PRO-

GRAM THROUGH CONTROL OVER THE FUNDS.

3. VALLEJO EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOC INTENDED TO GIVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO THE FMD CONTROL PROGRAM AND THAT HE WOULD SET UP A SPECIAL ORGANIZATION IN THE AGRICULTURE MINISTRY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ESTUPINAN TO PROVIDE DIRECTION, SUPERVISION AND COORDINATION OF THE VARIOUS ENTITIES-ICA, INDERRENA, INCORA, CREDIT INSTITUTIONS, ETC. WHICH MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM:

4. IT IS CLEAR FROM THE ABOVE THAT THE KEY ISSUE IN THE AUGUST 16 MEETINGS WILL BE FORMULATION OF THE JOINT MECHANISM. THE GOC WILL ACCEPT FULL TIME PRESENCE OF USDA TECHNICIANS TO OBSERVE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE FMD PROGRAM IN THE SENSE OF CONSULTANTS AND WILL AGREE TO U.S. CONTROL OVER THE FUNDS IN THE WAY THAT AID PROGRAMS ARE CONTROLLED. THE U.S. COULD ALSO BE REPRESENTED IN SOME FORM ON THE SPECIAL ORGANIZATION AT THE MINISTRY LEVEL WHICH WILL DIRECT AND CONTROL THE PROGRAM. HOWEVER THIS WOULD AGAIN BE ALONG CONSULTANT OR ADVISOR LINES WITH ULTIMATE U.S. CONTROL BEING IN THE CONTROL OVER FUNDS AND OVER CONSTRUCTION OF THE HIGHWAY. IN A SENSE THIS MAY BE MORE OF A DRAFTING PROBLEM THAN A SUBSTANTIVE ONE SINCE THE EFFECTIVE U.S. CONTROL OVER THE FUNDS AND THE HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION SHOULD ENSURE HIGH LEVEL GOC ATTENTION TO U.S. RECOMMENDATIONS.

5. AGATT ALSO INFORMED VALLEJO OF THE USG DECISION TO POSTPONE ANY FURTHER HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION DUE TO THE RISK OF FMD SPREAD UNTIL THE AGREEMENT WITH COLOMBIA WAS NEGOTIATED AND IMPLEMENTED. VALLEJO INDICATED HIS VIEW THAT THIS WAS REASONABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCE AND REEMPHASIZED THE GOC COMMITMENT TO MOVE QUICKLY TO REACH AGREEMENT ON AN EFFECTIVE FMD CONTROL PROGRAM.

6. WHILE THE GOC WILL BE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE A FINAL AGREEMENT DURING THE AUGUST 16 MEETINGS IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THE AGREEMENT CAN BE SIGNED AT THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIME BECAUSE OF PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS -I.E., NEED FOR APPROVAL BY THE NATIONAL PLANNING OFFICE, FONOFF AND COLOMBIAN PARLIAMENT.
WHITE

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